



Gastric Cancer

A malignant tumour of the
stomach



Causes & Incidence

- A common cancer of the G.I.T.
- Most commonly occurs in men over 40
- High incidence in Japan, Iceland & Chile
- Possibly related to salt cured and smoked foods

OFTEN A SILENT CANCER UNTIL
ADVANCED



Risk Factors

- Family History
- Blood group A
- History of Pernicious Anaemia (3rd Yr)
- History of Chronic Gastritis
- History of Gastric Polyps
- Partial Gastrectomy
- Incidence 2 in 10000



Symptoms

- May be asymptomatic
- Anorexia
- Dysphagia
- Vague sensation of fullness
- Nausea & Vomiting
- Haematemesis
- Abdominal Pain



Symptoms Continued

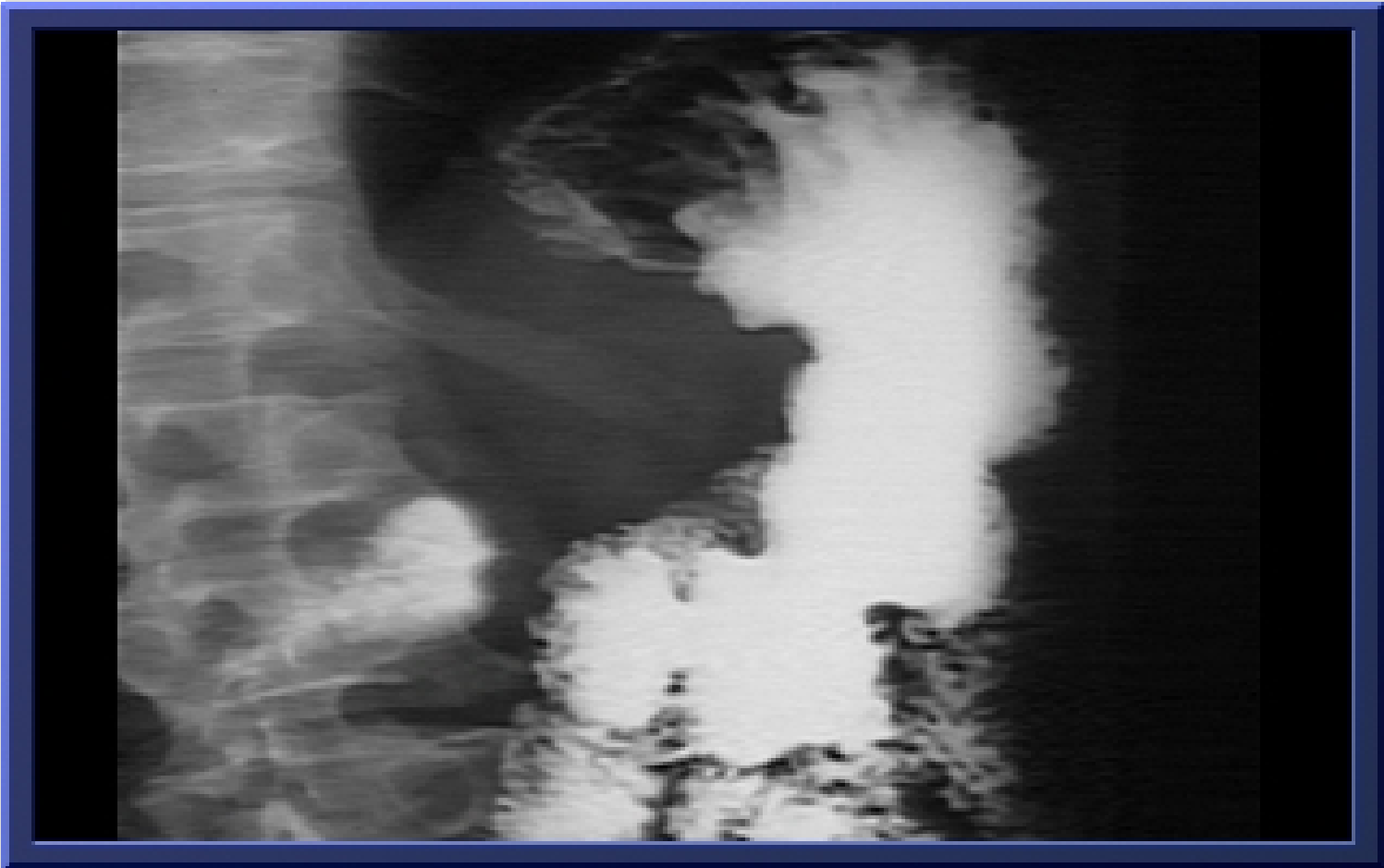
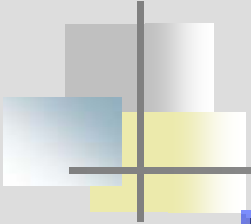
- Belching
- Breath Odour
- Excessive Flatus
- Dyspepsia after meals
- Weight Loss
- Decline in General Health



Examination

- Barium Meal
- Endoscopy and Biopsy
- Blood test revealing elevated ESR and clinical anaemia
- Test for occult blood in stool

Barium Meal Showing Gastric Cancer





Treatment

- Surgical removal of part or all of the stomach is the only curative treatment.
- However, only 10% undergoing this treatment will be 'cured'
- Many have advanced cancer with spread to lymph nodes or other structures at time of diagnosis



Treatment Continued

- Metastatic spread commonly affects the Liver and head of the Pancreas.
- Radiotherapy and chemotherapy may be useful as a palliative treatment
- Prognosis is poor overall